

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 02342 301404Z

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

-----109222 301406Z /40

O 301020Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8774

S E C R E T LUSAKA 2342

NODIS CHEROKEE

FOR MOOSE FROM LOW

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV RH US UK

SUBJ: RHODESIA: SMITH/NKOMO TALKS PROPOSAL

REF: STATE 165186, LUSAKA 2341

1. YOUR 165186 MOST HELPFUL. IT IS GOOD TO BE BACK IN COMMUNICATIONS.

2. FOR YOUR INFORMATION, JOHNNY HAS BEEN RECEIVING ALL COPIES OF INSTRUCTIONS TO WASHINGTON AND HAS SHARED THEM WITH ME. HE HAS ALSO SHARED THE DETAILED ACCOUNTS OF PREVIOUS ENCOUNTERS. WE ARE THEREFORE ALL OPERATING ON THE SAME INFORMATION BASE.

3. YOU WILL BE RECEIVING IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO THE ACCOUNT OF THEIR FRIEND'S FIRST MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT. IN IT, HE ASKS FOR AN ASSESSMENT OF SMITH'S SERIOUSNESS OF PURPOSE FOR BOTH DR. OWEN AND SECRETARY VANCE. I HAVE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS IN THIS REGARD.

A. SMITH IS DISILLUSIONED WITH MUZOREWA AND SITHOLE AND IS PROBABLY SINCERE IN TURNING TO NKOMO TO HELP FIND A SOLUTION.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 LUSAKA 02342 301404Z

B. HOWEVER, I AM NOT CONVINCED THAT HE IS YET PREPARED TO MAKE THE NECESSARY COMPROMISES IN TERMS OF GOING BEYOND THE MARCH 3 AGREEMENT IN THE ARRANGEMENTS OF THE TRANSITION PERIOD AND ELIMINATING THE BLOCKING MECHANISM OF AN INDEPENDENCE CONSTITUTION TO PROVIDE NKOMO WITH WHAT HE WOULD NEED FOR AN UNDERSTANDING.

C. I CAN HARDLY IMAGINE THAT SMITH DOES NOT HAVE IN THE BACK OF HIS MIND THAT IF A MEETING OF THIS KIND FAILS AS A RESULT OF NKOMO'S INTRANSIGENCE, HE COULD STILL USE IT TO DIVIDE AND WEAKEN THE PF, EVEN AT THE EXPENSE OF SOME DAMAGE TO HIS OWN POSITION WITH THE INTERNAL NATIONALISTS. THEIR DEPENDENCE ON HIM MAKES THE LATTER LESS OF A CONCERN.

D. I EMPHASIZED TO JOHNNY AND THROUGH HIM TO HIS FRIEND THAT IN PRESENTING THE PROPOSAL THEY SHOULD MAKE CLEAR THE CONNECTION BETWEEN IT AND AN ALL PARTIES CONFERENCE IN THE SENSE THAT SMITH SEES THE MEETING WITH NKOMO AS A PRELIMINARY TO THE LATTER.

E. I FIND IT INTERESTING THAT KAUNDA EXPRESSED NO CONCERN ABOUT PRESERVING MUGABE'S POSITION OR UNITY OF THE PF AND I WONDER WHETHER HIS OPPOSITION TO BRINGING IN NYERERE MIGHT NOT BE RELATED TO THIS. AS YOU RECALL KAUNDA'S SEPTEMBER EFFORT AT AN NKOMO-SMITH ARRANGEMENT FOUNDERED ON KAUNDA'S LATER INSISTENCE THAT MUGABE BE INCLUDED, WHICH MAY WELL HAVE RESULTED FROM NYERERE'S INSISTENCE. I HAVE NO EVIDENCE OF THIS. IT IS ENTIRELY SPECULATIVE.

F. FINALLY AS YOU WILL SEE FROM REFTTEL, CHONA SHREWDLY GUESSED THAT SMITH MIGHT MAKE SUCH AN OFFER. (I DOUBT HE HAD ANY FOREKNOWLEDGE OF IT SINCE THE MEETING WITH THE FRIEND OCCURRED LATER IN THE DAY.) CONA REJECTED IT AND I SUSPECT BOTH HE AND
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 LUSAKA 02342 301404Z

NKOMO WILL SEE MORE OF THE PROBLEMS IN IT THAN KAUNDA HAS. I ALSO WONDER WHETHER SMITH WILL BE QUITE SO EAGER ABOUT THE IDEA OF THE MEETING WHEN HE LEARNS THAT WE WILL NOT BE VISIBLY PRESENT. HOWEVER IT STILL SEEMS TO ME WORTH PURSUING AS LONG AS WE KEEP IT IN THE CONTEXT OF A PRELIMINARY TO THE ALL PARTIES MEETING.
LOW

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, CAT-C, POLITICAL LEADERS, POLITICAL CONCESSIONS, NEGOTIATIONS, SECRET MEETINGS, CHEROKEE 06/30/78
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LUSAKA02342
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: ///////////////////////////////////////
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: n/a
Format: TEL
From: LUSAKA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 2
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978064/aaaaactg.tel
Line Count: 101
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Message ID: 1aa04685-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: 78 STATE 165186, 78 LUSAKA 2341
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2280414
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RHODESIA: SMITH/NKOMO TALKS PROPOSAL
TAGS: PDEV, PINT, RH, (NKOMO, JOSHUA), (SMITH, IAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1aa04685-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014